

IOWA PUBLIC INFORMATION BOARD

April 18 MINUTES

The Board met at 11 a.m. in the Robert D. Ray Conference Room in the Governor's office at the Iowa Statehouse with the following members present: Anthony Gaughan, West Des Moines; Andrew McKean, Anamosa; Gary Mohr, Bettendorf; Jo Martin of Spirit Lake (via telephone); Bill Monroe, Johnston; Robert Andeweg, Urbandale; Kathleen Richardson, Des Moines; Suzan Stewart, Sioux City and Peggy Weitzl, Carroll. Also present was Larry Johnson, Deputy Legal Counsel to the Governor.

Votes Taken

- 1) On a motion by Andeweg seconded by Mohr, the agenda was approved.
- 2) On a motion by Andeweg, seconded by Mohr the minutes of the March 21 meeting were approved.

3) After interviewing three finalist candidates for the position of IPIB Executive Director and on a motion by Mohr, seconded by Martin, the board voted to offer Keith Luchtel the position once the Iowa Legislature approves the Board's budget. The vote was 6-3 with McKean, Richardson and Gaughan voting no and all others voting yes.

- 4) On a motion by Mohr, seconded by McKean, the board chairman's written comments were read into the minutes as follows:

Since the last board meeting...

---A signed agreement has been received enabling the IPIB to use the case management software developed by the Ombudsman's office.

---Richardson and Monroe updated the editorial staff of the Des Moines Register on the Board's progress March 25.

---The Website Committee has met twice with Iowa Interactive and is on track to have the website ready for us by July 1.

---The Department of Administrative Services has identified some potential space for the IPIB in the Wallace Building but will not proceed to prepare the space for occupancy until the legislature has determined the agency's budget.

---At the March 21 board meeting, a member of the public voiced their concern with applicants for the position of Executive Director and Rule 12 of the Joint Rules Governing Lobbyists. Johnson and Monroe reviewed the concern, reviewed Rule 12, discussed the issue with members of the Ethics Committee in the Legislature, and received informal advice from the Secretary of the Senate. Based on all of the gathered information, discussions, and advice, there is no concern with any of the candidates and the board will proceed with the interviewing process.

---On April 17, the Senate approved a budget of \$450,000 for the IPIB. Governor Branstad has recommended \$490,000 and the House has approved \$100,000. The budget matter now goes to a conference committee.

---On April 9, Assistant Attorney General Julie Pottorff and Monroe staffed a hearing on IPIB administrative rules. Nobody from the public attended. Earlier, the two met with the League of Iowa Cities to discuss some changes the League is recommending.

---On April 12, Pottorff and Monroe appeared before the Administrative Rules Review Committee to update the committee on the Board's progress and answer questions about the proposed rules.

---On April 12, a list of Executive Director interview questions was sent to Board members for their review and comment. Changes were made and the final set was sent to Board members April 15.

---On April 16 Monroe traveled to the University of Iowa where he met with Mark Braun, President Sally Mason's Chief of Staff, to begin planning a fall IPIB meeting and symposium to be held in the Old Capitol. The same day, Monroe spoke to the U of I Faculty Council on the progress of the Board.

---On April 20, Richardson and Monroe will make an IPIB presentation to the Iowa Broadcast News Association.

Action Agreed Upon

1) The next meeting date is Thursday, May 16 in the Robert D. Ray Conference Room. Board members were alerted to a conference call meeting to be held soon to approve final rules.

Other Items Discussed

1) The board invited general comments from the public.

On a motion by Weitzl, seconded by Mohr, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Bill Monroe, Board chairman